

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

JANUARY 18, 2024

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Organizational Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 18, 2024, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

Vice-Chair Steve Frisbie called the meeting to order and requested the Deputy Clerk call the roll.

Present: Comrs. Steve Frisbie, Derek King, Tommy Miller, Rochelle Hatcher, Diane Thompson, and Monique French.

Absent/Excused: Comr. Kathy-Sue Vette.

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, HR/Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault, Communications Director Lucy Blair, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Susan Connolly.

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Vice-Chair Frisbie called a moment of silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.001-2024

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the agenda of the January 18, 2024, Organizational Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, as presented."

On a **VOICE VOTE**, Motion **CARRIED**.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of the December 21, 2023 Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting

Minutes of the December 21, 2023, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting.

Res.002-2024

"Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Minutes of the December

21, 2023, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting, as presented."

On a **VOICE VOTE**, Motion **CARRIED**.

6. Citizens' Time

Battle Creek area resident Richard Logan expressed continued concerns related to a Loganwood Development roadway dispute with the County.

Marshall resident Barry Wayne Adams expressed opposition to the Marshall Ford Blue Oval development and the current status of litigation.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

There was none.

8. Special Order of Business

A. 2024 Organizational Session - Election of Board of Commissioners Vice Chair

Res.003-2022

Comr. Hatcher nominated Comr. Frisbie to continue as Vice Chairperson of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners in 2024 for a one-year term per Standing Board Rules.

Comr. French seconded the nomination for Comr. Frisbie to remain Vice Chairperson of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners in 2024 for a one-year term per Standing Board Rules.

Vice Chair Frisbie called three times for other nominations and none were offered.

"Moved Comr. King, second by Comr. Hatcher to close the nominations and cast a unanimous vote in support for Commissioner Steve Frisbie to be elected as the 2024 Vice Chairperson of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners."

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

Commissioner Steve Frisbie was declared by unanimous vote to serve as Vice Chairperson of the 2024 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners.

9. Consent Agenda

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

B. Resolutions

1. 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule

2. *2024 BCBSM Renewal Documents*

3. *Revisions to Policy #340 Employee Benefits (Non-Union)*

Res.004 -2023

“Moved Comr. King, second by Comr. French to approve the Consent Agenda of the January 18, 2024, Board of Commissioner’s Regular Session, as presented.”

On a **VOICE VOTE**, Motion **CARRIED**.

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

Comr. French provided updates from a recent Calhoun County Broadband Task Force meeting and a Battle Creek City DDA Board meeting.

11. Unfinished and Old Business

There was none.

12. New Business and County Administrator's Report

A. *Administrator/Controller's Report*

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott highlighted the new podcast series "Inside Calhoun County" with Richard Piet and encouraged members of the Board to listen to the series, which has featured so far several County elected officials, department heads and the judiciary.

Ms. Scott shared that she would be participating on an Economic Development panel at the Jan.19 Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce's State of the Business Community event.

Kelli Scott added that the County's State of the Community event including all four cities is scheduled for February 2.

B. *New Business*

1. *Appointment of Corporation Counsel*

Kelli Scott noted that Michigan law requires county boards to employ a civil attorney and to appoint a FOIA coordinator.

Administrator/Controller Scott announced that pending Board approval, Kate Ambrose will start her new role as Corporation Counsel on February 2. Scott highlighted Ms. Ambrose's experience and education.

Ms. Scott added that Kris Getting will transition to the role of Court Administrator for all

courts.

Kate Ambrose was present and addressed the board, thanking them for their support and introducing family members in attendance.

Res.005-2024

“Moved Comr. King, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the appointment of Corporation Counsel, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Yes – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, and French.

Absent/Excused - 1, Comr. Vette

Motion **CARRIED**.

2. 2024 Agreement for MSU Extension Services

Ms. Scott stated that the agreement with Michigan State University calls for shared responsibility and costs for the operation of the MSU Extension office in Calhoun County.

Kelli Scott noted the benefits of the numerous programs offered by the MSUE and added that Julie Pioch was present to answer any questions.

Res.006-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Thompson to approve the 2024 Agreement for MSU Extension Services, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Yes – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, and French.

Absent/Excused - 1, Comr. Vette

Motion **CARRIED**.

3. Amended Administrative Services Agreement with Calhoun County Land Bank Authority

Administrator/Controller Scott reminded the Board that the Land Bank Authority is a separate entity from the County Government and rents space within the County Building, providing efficiencies for both entities.

Kelli Scott noted that the proposed amendment adds communication services to the other administrative services provided to the Land Bank by the County, including financial, HR, and IT, among others.

Res.007-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Thompson to approve the Amended Administrative

Services Agreement with Calhoun County Lank Bank Authority, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Yes – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, and French.

Absent/Excused - 1, Comr. Vette

Motion **CARRIED**.

4. *Amended Administrative Services Agreement with the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority*

Ms. Scott shared that the Agreement between the County and the Calhoun County Dispatch Authority has been in place since 2009, and that the current amendment adds communications services provided by the County.

Director of the Consolidated Dispatch Authority, Mike Armitage was present to answer any questions.

Res.008-2024

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Amended Administrative Services Agreement with the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Yes – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, and French.

Absent/Excused - 1, Comr. Vette

Motion **CARRIED**.

5. *Amended Agreement for Inmate Medical Services*

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott stated that the proposed 6th amendment to the Agreement with Yes Care providing inmate medical services was primarily to add staffing and oversight for a new medication assisted treatment (MAT) program within the jail.

Sheriff Steve Hinkley addressed the importance for funding and the jails' relationship with Summit Pointe in helping connect individuals to treatment and recovery services following incarceration.

Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox noted the importance of the new MAT program and the ongoing relationship with YesCare as the County's jail medical provider.

Comr. Hatcher asked about services offered to those following incarceration. Sheriff Hinkley replied that there are services and insurance options for services once individuals are released from jail, and that what has been lacking is the MAT program while they are incarcerated.

Comr. Miller asked who covers the costs of inmate medical services for those housed from other Counties and the federal government. Sheriff Hinkley replied that those other entities

are billed for costs other than costs for local inmates.

Res.009-2024

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Amended Agreement for Inmate Medical Services, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Yes – 5, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, and French.

Absent/Excused - 2, Comr. Vette; Thompson (left early)

Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

Executive Director Mike Armitage of the Consolidated Dispatch Authority thanked the board for approving the services agreement and continued relationship with the County.

Mr. Armitage provided an update regarding active towers and those under construction and the status of the use of new radios provided by Motorola.

Barry Wayne Adams expressed concerns related to constitutional rights and free speech.

14. Commissioners' Time

Comr. Frisbie noted the event "Outside the Cereal Bowl" hosted at Harper Creek High School with Comr. King hosting the recent meeting, and added that Ms. Lynn Ward Gray of the NAACP was in attendance.

Comr. French reported that she attended the Stand Up - Speak Up event held Jan. 15 in Battle Creek along with Clerk Hinkley.

Comr. French shared that she and Comr. Hatcher will attend the upcoming Southwest Michigan First Economic Development Conference on January 25 in Kalamazoo.

Comr. French highlighted recent MLK events in Battle Creek.

15. Claims Payable Listing

- A. *Claims Payable for December 14, 2023 through January 10, 2024 in the amount of \$4,997,585.12*

Res.010-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for December 14, 2023 through January 10, 2024, in the amount of \$4,997,585.12, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Yes – 5, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, and French.

Absent/Excused - 2, Comr. Vette; Comr. Thompson (left early).

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

There were none.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m. at the call of the Vice Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners